

large DNC donations for the event from two other Indian tribes.⁵⁹⁰ The last two Shakopee DNC contributions in 1996 were both issued on Sept. 16, in checks of \$25,000 each.⁵⁹¹ The tribe employed two checks in making this \$50,000 total contribution so as to accommodate competing desires for fund-raising recognition on the parts of Thomann and Stetson, both of whom had pursued the Shakopee for an “upgrade” to managing trustee status (\$100,000 in one year) at the time of the Democratic National Convention in August.⁵⁹² The DNC assigned one of these payments to the Shakopee’s participation in an Oct. 23, 1996, Minnesota coordinated campaign and DNC fund-raising reception in Minneapolis honoring the Vice President, for which O’Connor and Kitto were again among the lead fund-raisers. The Shakopee had seven guests scheduled to attend this function. Other tribes represented at the reception included the Upper Sioux, Fond du Lac, Lower Sioux, Prairie Island, Leech Lake and St. Croix.

Oneida Nation of Wisconsin

Besides the Shakopee, the only other Hudson opposition tribe that attained DNC managing trustee status during this period was the Oneida Nation of Wisconsin. Its post-April 1995 national Democratic contributions included the following:

⁵⁹⁰Stetson had originally envisioned a single DNC event to raise \$1 million in support of the re-election effort, but the July 30 event is all that came of it due to what she termed a lack of DNC interest.

⁵⁹¹The tribe also made a \$15,000 contribution to the DSCC on Sept. 16, along with scores of additional political contributions on the state and federal level. It appears that these contributions were all approved at a special meeting of the Business Council on Sept. 13, based on the recommendations of Hardacker and North State Advisors.

⁵⁹²The convention schedule featured a number of events directed at Native Americans, including a reception hosted by Gover, Stetson, Collier and John Duffy, who by that time was in private practice with Collier.